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9 MAY 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : South China Coverage

1. The Special Group approved the mission to South China on 29 March 1962 and we have been on alert for that mission since that date until the present, except for a three-week delay to resolve fuel problems. We have not launched a sortie due to bad weather over the target areas. Even during the fuel delay, weather was not clear over the entire route.

2. In looking at the climatology for the next four-month period the chances of obtaining favorable weather over the entire route is very remote, less than two days per month. However, weather has been favorable over segments of the route - at times up to fifty per cent.

3. In view of the above, it is recommended that the Special Group be approached for permission to accomplish the South China mission in two sorties. A mission will be launched if favorable weather conditions exist over fifty per cent of the areas of interest.

SIGNED

HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.  
Deputy Director  
(Research)

cc: DDCI (Cy 2)

Signature recommended:

*(Signature)*

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Acting Chief, DPD

AC/DPD:SWB:jr (9 May 62)

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